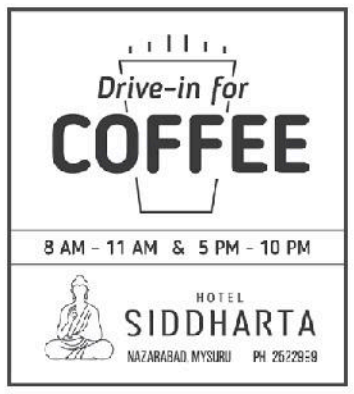

STAR OF MYSORE

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MYSURU Saturday 17th January 2026
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PRASHAD scheme atop Chamundi Hill

Protests erupt; works halt

Hill residents, Hindu activists seek clarity on legal approvals and heritage safeguards

Mysuru, Jan. 17 (BLU&BCT)- Work on the Centre's Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) project at Chamundi Hill was halted last evening following a protest by residents of the Hill and Hindu social activists, who demanded clarity on legal approvals and heritage safeguards.

Although the High Court had issued notices to the Central and State Governments earlier this week, construction activity continued at the site through the morning.

By afternoon, villagers and activists gathered in large numbers, blocking the work and staging a sit-in protest by spreading tarpaulin sheets at the location where digging was underway.

The petition that led to the High Court's intervention was filed by Pramoda Devi Wadiyar, a member of the erstwhile Mysore royal family, questioning both the legitimacy of the project and the authority implementing it.

The High Court has directed the Governments to explain the details of the project and adjourned the matter to Feb. 13.

Following this, the State Government instructed the Tourism Department and the Chamundeshwari Temple Development Authority to compile and submit all records related to the ongoing development works.

Unauthorised work: Residents

Protesters alleged that construction was being carried out without mandatory land acquisition orders or clearance from Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage. They warned that unauthorised work at the site could damage the Temple's traditional and cultural heritage.

Officials of the Chamundeshwari Temple Development Authority, however, maintained that the project had received Government approval. However, the protesters insisted that no work would be permitted until all legal documents were produced.

(See PROTEST on page 5)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Saturday 17th January 2026

Talk on Food, Agriculture and Farmer tomorrow

Vasanth Kumar

Mysuru, Jan. 17- Mysore Literary Association has organised a talk on 'Food, Agriculture and Farmer' by Dr. Vasanth Kumar Thimakapura, renowned agricultural scientist, at Kalpa Kshetra, Vijayanagar 4th Stage, 1st Phase, Mysuru, tomorrow (Jan. 18) at 11 am.

Dr. Vasanth Kumar Thimakapura, a Plant Pathologist and Social Agripreneur, is dedicated to solving farmers' problems through practical science and field-driven innovation. With over four decades of hands-on experience in crop health management, he is widely known among farmers as "Plant Doctor" for his accurate diagnosis and effective solutions to complex crop diseases.

An alumnus of the University of Mysore, Dr. Thimakapura holds M.Sc., M.Phil., and Ph.D. degrees in Applied Botany. After beginning his career as a University lecturer, his passion for field-level impact led him to work extensively with farmers and later with Pioneer Hi-Bred International (USA), where he spent 15 years collaborating with global experts in Crop Pathology and Seed Science.

He has pioneered a unique interest-free micro-finance model by supplying critical agricultural inputs on credit to thousands of small and marginal farmers, significantly improving their livelihoods. His work has benefited more than 15,000 farmers across multiple crops and regions. For details call Mob: 94498-19536.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

THE MAN COLD: ***It started as a tickle in the throat. And I was in complete denial. By mid-day, my doubts were becoming certainty. My throat was like sandpaper and my nose was flowing like gossip at Kamala's kitty party. By evening I knew that I was going to die. Of the worst disease known to humanity — a man cold.***

Unlike the common garden variety of viral fever or flu that anyone, especially the female of the species, gets, the man cold is more debilitating, needs complete bedrest, lots of hot food and generous dollops of tender loving care. All from the spouse, who is suffering from the same cold, but without the accompanying groans and constant complaining.

Kamala glared at me threateningly when I suggested that we call the doctor to find out if this was fatal. It could be a new pandemic, you mustn't take things lightly, I gently reminded her. Everyone seems to be having it and nobody is taking this seriously. I think Gen Z manifested this infection, with their talk of going viral all the time — now every influencer has influenza.

The people in Delhi are confused whether their breathing difficulty is from poor air quality or from a new strain of the flu virus. Well, some of us are sick because of the air, others are sick because of sewage contaminating drinking water and yet others are just sick — of what's happening around us.

Convicted criminals are walking free and being feted, while students and activists are being denied bail. Bully countries are picking up the President of another nation like multiplex cinema goers picking up popcorn, while glancing greedily at Greenland hoping they can come back for nachos in the interval. Meanwhile, all of us who were wished good health and happiness for 2026 by every acquaintance on WhatsApp, are now reaching out for tissues and sympathy and watching *Home Alone* ***or*** *Homebound* ***while pretending to work from home.***

Every time we become complacent and think we are the pinnacle of evolution, one new strain of a small sub-microscopic virus comes along to teach us how vulnerable we really are. It doesn't take an army to conquer us anymore — the cold war is fought every season and this is a battle we cannot win. Atchooo! Everyone has it so we know why it's called the common cold.

—Anil Abraham in The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

Acid Lake that can fry you on contact

East Java: A place that fascinates travellers from across the world is Kawah Ijen, a volcanic crater lake on the island of Java in Indonesia. This lake is touted as world's deadliest crater lake.

As per a report, parts of the lake have a pH level lower than 0.3. That is similar to battery acid. To put it simply, this water is strong enough to burn skin and dissolve metal on contact. Aluminium cans sizzle when dropped into it. Rocks slowly dissolve. No animal or human can survive in the water when in contact with lake water.

The lake water appears bright turquoise or bluish green, an almost unreal hue. This colour comes from minerals and acids released by red-hot magma below the volcano.

Feast for son-in-law with 158 dishes

Tenali: A family from Tenali in Andhra Pradesh's Guntur district turned this year's Sankranti celebrations into an unforgettable extravaganza by preparing 158 dishes for their son-in-law.

Vandanapu Muralikrishna and his wife hosted the lavish feast for their son-in-law and their daughter Maunika. This was the couple's first Sankranti together after getting married last year, making it an extra-special occasion.

The spread included an array of traditional Andhra delicacies - crispy savory snacks like murukulu, chekkalu and garelu, sweet treats featuring jaggery, such as ariselu, bobbatlu, sunnundulu, and kajjikayalu along with a mix of vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes, rice varieties, curries, and more.

It is a heartfelt expression of familial love, respect, and hospitality, where sons-in-law are traditionally treated like kings. Families go all out to honour them with grand feasts, thoughtful gifts, and warm welcomes. Sankranti is a heartfelt expression of familial love, respect, and hospitality, where sons-in-law are traditionally treated like kings.

HEALTH CAPSULE

How is Urticaria treated?
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By Dr. Ravi S - Consultant – Dermatologist
Manipal Hospitals, Mysuru

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LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

'Dhanur Vainika Brahma' Award to Dr. Mysore M. Manjunath

Dr. Mysore M. Manjunath

Mysuru, Jan. 17- Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha and Pitilu Mysore T. Chowdiah Samsmarana Vedike have jointly organised a programme to confer 'Dhanur Vainika Brahma' Award on noted violinist Dr. Mysore M. Manjunath at Nadabrahma Sabha premises on JLB Road in city on Jan. 19 at 6 pm.

Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji of Sri Adichunchanagiri Mutt will grace the occasion.

It will be followed by a Violin Duet by Dr. Mysore Manjunath and Vid. Sumanth Manjunath accompanied by Vid. K.U. Jayachandra Rao on mridanga and Vid. G. Guruprasanna on kanjira.

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Today's level **122.68 feet**	Today's level **2,275.67 feet**	Today's level **2,829.39 feet**
Last year's level **122.84 feet**	Last year's level **2,280.34 feet**	Last year's level **2,836.04 feet**
Yesterday's level **122.86 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,275.69 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,829.30 feet**
Today's Inflow **692 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **442 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **286 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **3,293 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **500 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- *Spiders have blue blood. In humans, oxygen is bound to haemoglobin, a molecule that contains iron and gives blood its red colour. In spiders, oxygen is bound to hemocyanin, a molecule that contains copper rather than iron.*
- *The world's smallest spider is the Patu marplesi. It is so small that 10 of them could fit on the end of a pencil.*
- *Fishing Spiders are semi-aquatic and are often seen near ponds, streams, or lakes. They are capable of walking on water and even diving underwater to catch fish or insects.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Teacher: *Why is it that none of you can answer my question correctly?*
Raj: *Because Sir, if we could answer them correctly, we wouldn't have to be here!!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 90.74
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 121.42
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 24.71
1 Euro	= Rs. 105.22

VOICE OF THE READER

T.K. Layout Maruthi Temple Road needs attention

Sir,

I would like to draw your immediate attention to the extremely bad condition of the Maruthi Temple Road in T.K. Layout following the completion of Underground Drainage (UGD) works. Although the UGD work was completed some time ago, the road has not been restored properly and remains highly damaged.

The road surface is uneven and loose, with mud, stones and potholes. This has made daily movement very difficult and unsafe for residents. The situation becomes worse during dry weather due to excessive dust and during rains due to slush and water stagnation.

A major additional concern is the regular plying of city buses on this damaged road. Due to the heavy movement of buses, a large amount of dust is generated throughout the day, causing serious breathing discomfort, especially for senior citizens, children and patients.

The vibration and load from buses are further damaging the already weak road surface and increasing the risk of accidents.

Several senior citizens reside on this road and the current condition has made their day-to-day life extremely difficult. Walking has become risky and access for emergency vehicles is also affected. In view of the above, we request the authorities to inspect the road immediately and carry out proper restoration work with quality materials and temporarily stop or divert city bus services on this route until the road repair work is fully completed, in the interest of public safety and health.

Hope the authorities concerned will treat this matter as urgent, considering the health, safety and dignity of senior citizens and residents.

—H.S. Prasannakumar, R. Bharathi, M. Chinnaswamy and residents

T.K. Layout
10.1.2026

Society election on Feb. 1

Mysuru, Jan. 17- Election to the Board of Directors of United Minorities Credit Co-operative Society Limited will be held on Feb. 1 at Farooqia Girls Composite PU College, Muslim Girls Orphanage (MGO) Complex, 18th West Cross, Ashoka Road, Lashkar Mohalla, Mysuru. Filing of the nomination starts from Jan. 18 (11 am) and last date for filing nomination is Jan. 24 (3 pm). For details, Members can contact the Society Secretary.

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Nilambur-Nanjangud Railway line

Sreedharan-Vaishnaw meet sparks revival push

Environment concerns resurface as project cuts through Bandipur Tiger Reserve

New Delhi/Mysuru, Jan. 17 (AG&BCT)- The Centre appears to be reviving the controversial Nilambur–Nanjangud railway line project, which proposes to connect Karnataka and Kerala via Wayanad and the Bandipur Tiger Reserve.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw yesterday said that E. Sreedharan, former Managing Director of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, met him and held detailed discussions on a proposed new railway line between Nilambur in Malappuram district of Kerala and Nanjangud in Mysuru district.

According to the Minister, Sreedharan offered several suggestions to strengthen rail infrastructure and improve connectivity in Kerala. In a post on X, Vaishnaw said the veteran engineer had emphasised the importance of the Nilambur–Nanjangud rail link.

Kerala has been keen on implementing the project, arguing that the rail line would reduce travel time between Kochi and Bengaluru to about seven hours, compared to the present 11-hour journey. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had also called for the revival of the Nilambur–Nanjangud railway project during his 2024 re-election campaign.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw discussing with former Managing Director of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation E. Sreedharan in New Delhi yesterday.

2024 protests in Mysuru

It may be recalled that in January 2024, 'Save Bandipur' protests erupted in Mysuru after the Kerala Government and Southern Railway conducted an aerial survey to prepare the final report for the Nilambur–Nanjangud line.

Environmental activists strongly opposed the project as the proposed alignment passes through the Bandipur Tiger Reserve.

They argued that neither the construction of the railway line nor the opening of night traffic through Bandipur and Nagarahole would benefit the people of Karnataka. Instead, they warned that such initiatives could severely impact the fragile ecosystem and pose a threat to flora and fauna in these ecologically sensitive zones.

Environmental groups have consistently opposed the Nilambur–Nanjangud railway line, citing concerns over the disruption of wildlife habitats, increased risk of animal deaths and the overall degradation of the delicate ecosystems of Bandipur.

One tiger cub rescued

Chamarajanagar, Jan. 17 (MTY&DM)- One of the four tiger cubs which were orphaned after the mother tiger was trapped near Nanjedevanapura village in Harave Hobli of Chamarajanagar district, has been rescued by the Forest Department officials.

The mother tiger was caught in a trap placed by the Forest Department with a calf as bait near Nanjedevanapura on Jan. 9, following which it was rehabilitated at Bannerghatta Tiger Rehabilitation Centre near Bengaluru. Later, the department personnel found four tiger cubs wandering around Nanjedevanapura area, the images of which were captured in a drone camera.

Subsequently, one of the tiger cubs, said to be a female, which had hidden inside a fully grown bush was traced and rescued with the help of tamed elephants. Thereafter, the rescued cub was taken care of and released into a safer location.

Meanwhile, Forest Department officials have expressed concern that the 3 remaining cubs, which are yet to be traced, may be suffering from acute hunger, as the cubs being just 10 months old, cannot hunt on their own.

The officials have continued their search for tracing the 3 elusive tiger cubs.

One arrested for poisoning leopard to death

Doreswamy

Chamarajanagar, Jan. 17 (KS)- The Forest Department officials and staff have arrested a person, who had allegedly poisoned a leopard to death.

The arrested person has been identified as 60-year-old Doreswamy of Homma village in the taluk.

The decomposed carcass of the leopard aged between five and six years was found at an agricultural field on the outskirts of Homma village in the taluk on Wednesday.

The carcass of the leopard was found near the carcass of a calf. The leopard had devoured a part of the calf before it died, giving rise to suspicion that the carcass of the calf was laced with poison.

Suspecting foul play, the Forest officials conducted an investigation with the help of Police and finally arrested Doreswamy. He was produced before the Court and has been remanded to judicial custody.

Veteran Congress leader Bheemanna Khandre no more

Bheemanna Khandre

Bidar, Jan. 17 (Agencies)- Veteran Congress leader and former president of the Akhila Bharata Veerashaiva Lingayat Mahasabha, Bheemanna Khandre (103), passed away yesterday night at Bhalki in Bidar.

He is survived by two sons including Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre and Bidar DCC Bank President Amar Kumar Khandre — and four daughters. His other son, former MLA Vijayakumar Khandre, had predeceased him in 2019.

Last rites will be held at Shanti Dham in Bhalki this evening.

Bheemanna Khandre was suffering from age-related ailments and respiratory problems over the last few days and was admitted to a private hospital, but was shifted to his residence in Bhalki as per his wish recently.

Bheemanna entered public life in 1953 after becoming the first elected President of Bhalki Municipality. He won his maiden Assembly polls in 1962 and served four terms as an MLA and two terms as an MLC. He was a Transport Minister in CM Veerappa Moily's Cabinet. He was also the Founding President of Bidar Cooperative Sugar Factory and Mahatma Gandhi Sugar Factory.

Hit-and-Run

Rider killed as Tempo Traveller hits mobike

Basavalinga

Mysuru, Jan. 17 (KS) - A two-wheeler rider w as killed when a Tempo Traveller hit his motorbike on Yelwal Road yesterday evening.

The deceased has been identified as Basavalinga (42), a driver at Excel Public School in Hootagalli here. He leaves behind his wife and two sons.

Basavalinga, after his work, was proceeding towards home on his mobike on Yelwal Road when a speeding Tempo Traveller vehicle rammed into his two-wheeler and sped away resulting in him sustaining serious injuries. The accident was caught on a CCTV camera installed at a petrol bunk. Though he was rushed to a private hospital, he succumbed to injuries. The body was shifted to MMC&RI mortuary for post-mortem.

Yelwal Police, who have registered a case, have launched a search for the Tempo Traveller.

Senior Congress leader Narasegowda passes away

Narasegowda

Mysuru, Jan. 17- C. Narasegowda (84), senior Congress leader and a resident of Hosahundi village in the taluk, passed away at Bhanavi Hospital in Kuvempunagar here this morning.

A KPCC member, he was a former Gram Panchayat member, former President of Vokkaligara Sangha and Founder of Bhanavi Hospital at Kuvempunagar and Bhanavi Charitable Trust in city.

He leaves behind four daughters, one son and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites will be performed at Hosahundi after the arrival of his daughter from abroad tomorrow.

Obituary

Pailwan Shivanna

Mysuru, Jan. 17 - Pailwan Idli Shivanna (92), a Senior Ustad at Mayanna's Garadi at Devaraja Mohalla and a resident of Ittigegud 3rd Cross, passed away yesterday in city. He leaves behind his wife, three sons and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at Veerashaiva Burial Grounds at Lalithadripura this afternoon.

R. Nagaraju

R. Nagaraju (69), retired employee of Sarada Vilas Law College and a resident of Nazarbad, passed away yesterday following brief illness in city. He leaves behind his wife Ramamani, sons N. Shivaraju and N. Nagendraprasad and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill.

R.M. Nagamma

R.M. Nagamma (94), wife of retired engineer late B.S. Shivakumar and a resident of Saraswathipuram 14th Main Road, passed away yesterday in city.

She leaves behind one daughter, three sons and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Veerashaiva Burial Grounds in Vidyaranyapuram this afternoon.

H.R. Mahadevu

H.R. Mahadevu (57), a resident of Hanchya village in the taluk, passed away following a heart attack yesterday.

He leaves behind his wife Savitha, son Dayanand, daughter Hemavathi and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at the village this afternoon.

Protests erupt; works halt

(Continued from page 1)

As the protest intensified with hundreds of villagers joining in, Inspector Dhanaraj ofthe Krishnaraja Police Station arrived at the spot along with additional personnel.

Officials assured the agitators that the required documents would be provided soon, but they remained firm that construction would not resume until clear records were presented.

The halted work was being carried out to the left of the Chamundeshwari Temple, at the site traditionally used for the Dasara inauguration ceremony.

The project involved the construction of a Saalumantapa (queue shelter) to accommodate about 2,000 devotees. Earth movers had begun digging the road and marking pillar locations. However, strong opposition forced the work to stop, following which earth movers and other equipment were removed from the site.

DC clarifies...

"We stopped the work last night following protests. Construction will resume on Jan. 19, with Police protection. Full-fledged work will commence thereafter and all precautions will be taken to ensure that there are no further protests. The contractor has already dumped all construction materials atop the Hill and work will not be stopped under any circumstances."

— G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, Deputy Commissioner

Activists warn of risk to Temple, Gopura

Mysuru, Jan. 17 (BLU&BCT)- Chamundi Hill, revered as a centre of faith and devotion, has once again become the focus of controversy.

Hindu social activist Lohit Urs has alleged that construction work is being carried out barely 20 feet from the Sri Chamundeshwari Temple, despite an order of the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage prohibiting any new development within 100 metres of shrine.

Urs said that any development activity in Temple vicinity must follow legal process, including land acquisition and mandatory clearance from Archaeology Department. He accused the authorities of proceeding with construction without obtaining these approvals and termed the work illegal. "If the departments can produce the required orders and documents, we will not object. But if the work continues unlawfully, we will resist it," he said.

Concerns have also been raised over structural stability of Temple precinct. Activists pointed out that the ground around Chamundeshwari Temple tower (Gopura) is not firm and that soil had earlier been filled to level the area. They argued that before undertaking any construction work, soil samples should be scientifically tested in a laboratory to assess the suitability of the site. No such report has been obtained, they alleged.

"Who will take responsibility if the Temple or its Gopura suffer damage?" Urs asked, warning that sanctity and safety of the heritage site could be at risk.

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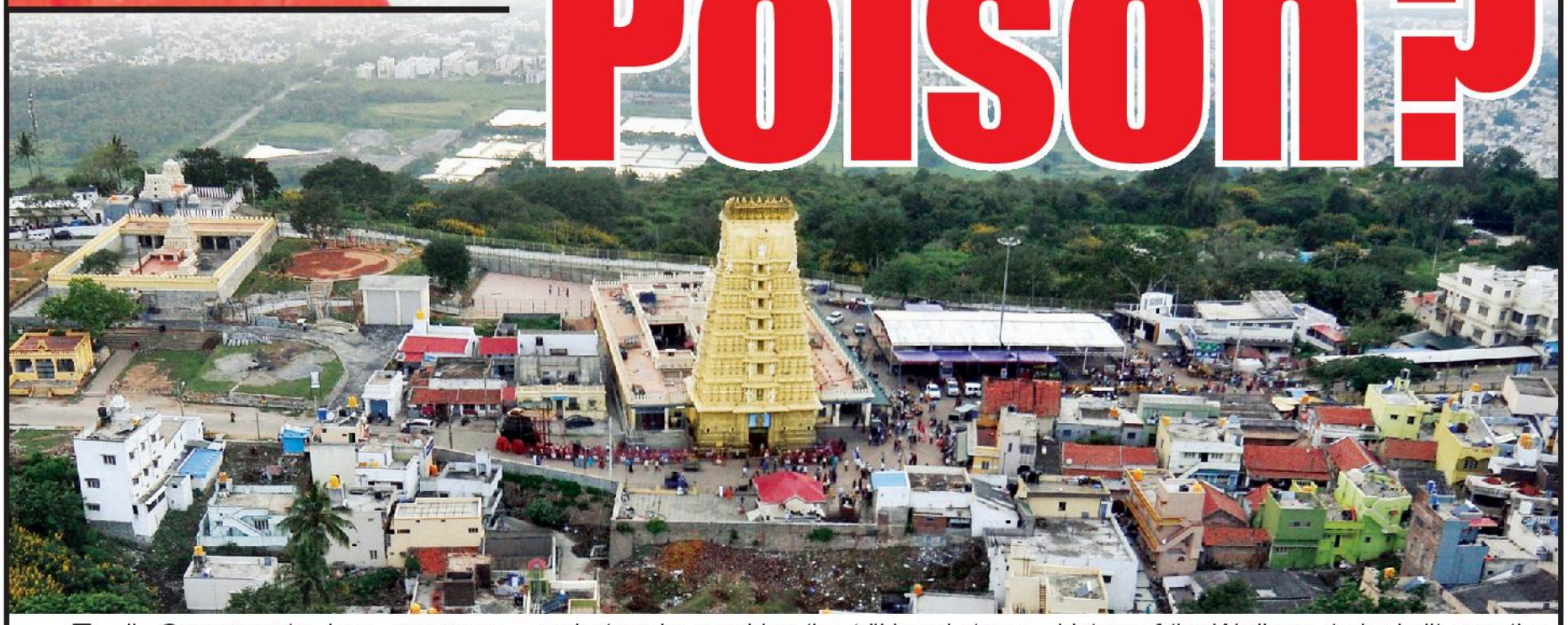
4. Interview Date, Timing & Venue Candidates fulfilling criteria will be called for interview on 02 Feb 26 at 1300hrs at Stn HQ ECHS, 2 Air Force Selection Board, CV Complex Siddhartha nager Mysuru-570011. At the time of interview candidates must bring all the original documents of Educational Qualifications, Medical certificate and work experience. No TA / DA is admissible.

IN BLACK & WHITE

Vikram Muthanna

PRASHAD or Poison?



All Governments love acronyms, and our Central Government has a perfect one for temples. It is called **PRASHAD.** It stands for **Pilgrimage Rejuvenation And Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive.**

Phew! It feels like reciting a long mantra!

The Centre has chosen our Chamundeshwari Temple atop Chamundi Hill to be *'developed'* under this scheme. One would say that's good news. But…

Whenever Mysureans hear the word development in the same sentence as Chamundi Hill, alarm bells ring and for good reason.

Over the years, we have watched concrete creep steadily upward, replacing green cover with parking lots, buildings, and half-baked *'amenities'* that nobody asked for.

For years now, every politician now and then has tried to start some project on the Hill. From the *'ropeway' to the 'giant viewing wheel'*. From 'road expansion' to an *'escalator'!*

Now, with PRASHAD, we are heading for the age-old battle, Development versus Non-development. But this is a false binary.

The real debate is scientific development versus unscientific development. Necessary facilities versus unnecessary projects.

Back in 2021, when we first heard of the PRASHAD *'concept note',* it sounded ridiculously ambitious. In fact, it was so ambitious that I was exhausted after reading it.

I would like to put my readers through it too, so you know how wide and irrational the scope of even a simple Government project can be.

The *'concept note'* proposed putting up traditional structures where vendors are already selling temple-related goods; developing the *'precinct of Mahabaleshwara,'* the temple next to the main one.

It planned to improve the path to Narayana Temple precinct, which is also close to the main temple; repairing the *'dibbana'* steps; setting up a *'bhajane'* centre where the old parking lot near the Temple now sits.

There was even a bold claim that the *'existing disorganised, commercialised precinct' would be converted into a 'sacred complex.'* What does this even mean? Even Goddess Chamundeshwari, we are sure, is confused.

The plan didn't stop there. It included upgrading the Nandi area, adding rest stops with toilets and drinking water along the Hill steps, installing handrails all along the steps, reviving Devikere with changing rooms.

The plan included creating a centralised ticketing centre at the foothill and introducing a system that tells you where parking spaces are available, it was titled *'smart parking'.*

So many grand plans, but one wonders how much *'smart'* infrastructure a fragile Hill ecosystem can absorb.

The proposal further divided the Hill into an *'Outer'* and *'Inner Precinct'.*

The *'Outer Precinct'* would house an elderly care centre, women and child care facilities, resting spaces, a drivers' facility centre, and even a hazard alert and rescue centre.

The *'Inner Precinct',* the core Temple area, would have drinking water facilities, toilets with lockers, meditation spaces, silent zones and resting places. The list went on and on.

There were also impressive claims about sustainability such as centralised waste management, smart bins, segregation zones, and even a *'zero-waste temple campus.'*

There was going to be solar lighting, water recharge pits, revival of historic wells and beautified viewpoints using traditional architecture.

On paper, it reads like a perfect blend of devotion, technology and environmental sensitivity.

In reality, it reads like a fiction novel.

Take for instance, the proposal for a *'Narratorium',* a storytelling space narrating the history of the Wadiyars, to be built near the foothill entrance. Or the *'Ecology Conservatory'* and *'Tree Species Museum',* complete with a greenhouse displaying native species as a *'live tree museum.'*

These ideas may belong in a university campus or a planned urban park, but do they belong on a sacred Hill already struggling under human pressure?

The inevitable question arises: Can all this really be built with just around Rs. 40 crore? Highly unlikely.

A more plausible explanation is that this is an old Government contractor trick. Give an overestimated proposal so they get enough money to at least execute 20 percent of the proposal.

Now, if this 20 percent includes clean toilets, better pathways, basic waste management and minimal visual improvement, then very few would object.

Chamundi Hill is not just another tourist destination or a pilgrimage centre it is the lung space of Mysuru. It must be protected, kept clean and green.

Will PRASHAD scheme development works kill the Hill? That depends entirely on how far the project goes. Basic amenities for devotees are necessary.

Excessive construction, thematic attractions and unnecessary *'experiential'* additions are not.

With over Rs. 40 crore, the Government can build a clean, orderly temple complex that respects the Hill's limits. Nothing more is required.

Mysureans must engage and question the project's scope. We must insist on scientific and eco-sensitive development. Otherwise, what is being served to us as PRASHAD may well turn out to be poison that will kill our beloved Hill. If that happens, it's on us, Mysureans.

e-mail: vikram@starofmysore.com

Andhra Pradesh burglar held for house thefts in Mysuru

Was a call centre employee with B.Sc Computer Science degree

Dwarakapudi

Mysuru, Jan. 17 (RK&KS)- The Kuvempunagar Police have arrested a notorious burglar from Andhra Pradesh who was involved in a series of house burglaries at Vasu Layout and Ramakrishnanagar in city. The Police have recovered silver articles and cash and seized the car used for the crime.

According to the police, the accused has been identified as Dwarakapudi Venkateshwara Reddy (34), a resident of Ravulapalem in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema District (formerly East Godavari) of Andhra Pradesh. He was employed at a call centre and holds a B.Sc. degree in Computer Science.

Jail stay and Chamundi Hill visit

Police said the accused had been committing house burglaries since 2017 in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Puducherry, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. He had earlier been lodged in jail in Puducherry and was released on bail about 20 days ago.

After his release, Reddy drove to Mysuru in his Ford Figo car and visited Chamundi Hill, where he had darshan of the Goddess. He then began scouting various areas of the city for locked houses, targeting only houses that were locked and committing burglaries between 1 am and 4 am, the Police said.

On Dec. 31, the accused broke into the house of Prof. Nagabhushan at Vasu Layout while the family was away in Ballari. He ransacked the house and decamped with about 150 grams of silver articles, Rs. 7,000 in cash and three CCTV cameras.

On the same night, he targeted another locked house belonging to Ananthapadmanabha, a retired bank employee, on 5th Main, 1st Cross, Ramakrishnanagar 'H' Block.

Unable to break open the main door, he gained entry through a window and fled with about 40 grams of silver coins and Rs. 60,000 in cash. Both incidents were captured on CCTV cameras.

Following the burglaries, complaints were lodged at the Kuvempunagar Police Station. Based on CCTV footage, the police circulated details of the Figo car used by the accused.

Arrest in Hassan

On Jan. 6, the Kuvempunagar Police received information from Hassan Police that a car matching the description was parked in the town. Inspector Yogesh and his team rushed to Hassan, located the vehicle, and kept surveillance.

When the accused returned to the car, he was arrested and brought to Mysuru. Police said that after parking his car, the accused would move around on foot to identify locked houses.

Police also noted that during the burglaries, the accused did not enter the pooja rooms or steal valuables kept there. The accused was produced before a city Court on Jan. 7 and remanded to judicial custody.

City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime and Traffic) K.S. Sundar Raj, and Krishnaraja (KR) Sub-Division Assistant Commissioner of Police Ramesh Kumar guided Kuvempunagar Inspector Yogesh and his team in the arrest and seizure operation.

Residents laud Kuvempunagar Police

The Kuvempunagar Police have earned the appreciation of residents of Ramakrishnanagar for their efficiency and professionalism in swiftly arresting the accused.

Thanking the Police on behalf of the residents, Achuta Rao, a resident of Ramakrishnanagar, wrote to *Star of Mysore* this morning and said that the prompt and dedicated efforts of the Police in cracking the case within a short time underscored their constant vigilance and commitment to public safety.

He said the timely action not only ensured quick justice but also restored a strong sense of security and confidence among residents. The people of the area have commended the Police for their efforts in maintaining law and order and safeguarding community safety.

Two-day national seminar on Bahuroopi Baba Saheb begins in city

Senior journalist Siddharth Varadarajan shares his views

***Senior Journalist Siddharth Varadarajan** (fourth from right) releasing the books on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar during the inauguration of two-day national seminar on 'Bahuroopi Baba Saheb - March towards Equality' organised by Rangayana as part of Bahuroopi National Theatre Festival at Mini Theatre in Kalamandira premises this morning. Also seen are (from left) Rangayana Deputy Director Dr. M.D. Sudarshan, Rangayana Director Satish Tiptur, MLC K. Shivakumar, University of Mysore (UoM) Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.K. Lokanath, District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, UoM's Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Research and Extension Centre Director Prof. S. Narendra Kumar, Social Welfare Department's (Bengaluru) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Training, Research and Extension Centre Director Dr. Sabeer Ahmad Mulla and Rangayana senior artiste K.R. Nandini.*

Mysuru, Jan. 17 (GA&VNS)- "The Indian Constitution is not only the culmination of the freedom struggle, but also an impetus for the developments that occurred globally after World War II. The defeat of Nazi fascism, the end of imperialism and the global influence in upholding human rights have had a major influence on structuring the Constitution," said senior journalist Siddharth Varadarajan here this morning.

Speaking after inaugurating a two-day national seminar 'Bahuroopi Baba Saheb - March towards Equality' as part of the ongoing Bahuroopi National Theatre Festival organised by Rangayana at Kirurangamandira in Kalamandira premises, he said that remembering Dr. Ambedkar, in such seminars, should not be restricted to an emotional factor, but rather it should be a medium to understand the ongoing global issues through his thinking.

Violation of Intl. Laws

"Currently, the international laws are being violated by powerful countries. The attacks on Palestine, Ukraine and other countries are examples of exploitation of international laws through a well-planned attack. These efforts to topple the goods of global achievements post World War II can prove to be dangerous. Money power has become a major force behind politics, which is evident in both USA and India. US President Donald Trump's administration cannot be considered as a result of one person's disequilibrium. There are external business and financial interests which are influencing administrative decisions," he added.

Political scenario

Similarly, the current political scenario in India cannot be treated only as a result of one person's or an organisation's work, but as an effort from financial and economic powers to dilute the Constitution and curb the rights of the minorities, dalits, women and the tribals, he pointed out.

Stating that such seminars and events should derive inspiration from Dr. Ambedkar in finding medicines for wounds that the country has suffered, Siddharth-Varadarajan added that Rangayana Director Satish Tiptur, has made an effort to spread the ideologies of Dr. Ambedkar in society through various mediums, including theatre plays, films and seminars, among others, during national theatre festival.

Call for youths

Speaking on the occasion, District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa said, "There has been a continuous attempt to weaken the spirit of the Constitution. The youth must come forward to stall such acts to uphold the aspirations of the Constitution."

Books on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and a calendar brought out by the Department of Social Welfare were released on the occasion.

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SUTTUR JATHRA EVENTS

TOMORROW (JANUARY 18)

POOJA-PROCESSIONS

- **At Karthru Gadduge — 4 am:** Maharudrabhisheka, Naarikelalankara, Mahamangalarathi & Silver Chariot Prakarotsava; **6.30 am:** Hadinaru - Friendship-Cordiality-Peace March; **7.30 am:** Shatsthala Flag Hoisting - Sri Channamalla Swamiji, Sri Virakthamutt, Hudagi, Humnabad taluk. Message - Sri Veerarudra Shivacharya Swamiji, Sri Hiremutt, Kunigal; **8 am:** Special Puja at Sutturamma Temple (Mahamangalarathi at 12.30 pm); **10.30 am:** Sri Nanjundeshwara Temple Maharudrabhisheka; **6.30 pm:** Maharudrabhisheka, Mahamangalarathi; **8.30 pm:** Laksha Deepotsava.
- **At Srimutt — 6.25 pm:** Sri Mahadeshwara Kondotsava; **7 pm:** Pearl Palanquin Procession of Sri Mahadeshwara Gurubrahmotsava Jangamotsava.

AGRICULTURE SEMINAR

- **10.30 am:** Sri Siddalinga Shivacharya Swamiji, Sri Suryasimhasana Mutt, Vatal and Dr. Sri Channabasava Swamiji, Junior Pontiff, Sri Degula Mutt, Kanakapura, will grace the occasion. Inauguration by Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister. Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Minister for Social Welfare and Mysuru District in-Charge, presides. Prize distribution to Progressive Farmers by H.K. Patil, Minister for Law & Parliamentary Affairs and Tourism. Prize distribution to Progressive Women Farmers by K. Venkatesh, Minister for Sericulture and Animal Husbandry. Book release — 'Crop Improvement' by Byrathi Suresh, Minister for Urban Development, 'Crop Production' by Basavaraj B. Rayareddy, MLA, Financial Advisor to the CM and former Minister and 'Crop Protection' by Dr. M.C. Sudhakar, Minister for Higher Education. D. Ravishankar, MLA, K.R. Nagar, Dr. Mantar Gowda, MLA, Madikeri, Mamatha Shekhar, Advisor, Precision Health Organisation, USA and M. Nanjundaswamy, President, ChaMUL, chief guests. Lecture by Dr. K.M. Harinikumara, Special Officer, Agricultural Sciences University, Mandya and Asha Sheshadri, Progressive Farmer, Kannangi, Theerthahalli taluk.
- **2.30 pm:** Agricultural Quiz for Women.
- **4.30 pm:** Valedictory of Agriculture Seminar. Dr. Sri Basavakumara Swamiji, Sri Vanasri Samsthana Mutt, Vijayapura and Member, Management Committee SJM Vidyapeetha, Chitradurga and Sri Arjuna Avadhootha Guruji, Sri Swarnanrusimha Datta Saipeetha, Mysuru, will grace the occasion. Krishna Byregowda, Minister for Revenue, presides. Valedictory Address by N. Chaluvarayaswamy, Minister for Agriculture. Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah, MLC, Shreyas M. Patel, MP, Hassan, H.M. Ganesh Prasad, MLA, Gundlupet, Subhash Malghan, President, Advisory Committee, JSS Spiritual Mission, USA, Shreeroopa, DC, Chamarajanagar, 'Daali' Dhananjaya, Actor and Producer, Neenasam Sathish, actor, N.S. Nagabhushan, actor and Vasuki Vaibhav, singer, chief guests. Lecture by Rajeshwari V. Patil, Progressive Farmer, Haveri and Yogeesh Appajaiah, Organic Farming Industrialist, Bengaluru.

CULTURAL PROGRAMMES

- **At Gadduge premises — 7 am:** Nadaswara; **8 am:** Bhakti Geete and Janapada Geete by Sri Basaveshwara Samskrutika Kalatanda, Kellamballi, Chamarajanagar taluk; **9 am:** Vachana Gayana by SKS Vachana Gayana Troupe, Sri Siddaganga Mutt; **2 pm:** Bhakti Geete and Bhavageete by P.K. Lakshmidevamma and Troupe, Vinayakanagar, Mysuru; **2.45 pm:** Yogasana Demonstration by students of JSS Public School, Dr. S. Radhakrishnanagar, Mysuru; **3 pm:** Kavya-Kuncha-Gayana by K.P. Revathi Sharma and Troupe, Srirampura, Mysuru; **7 pm:** Sugama Sangeetha by Vidu. Rashmi Chikkamagalur and Troupe, Mysuru; **7.30 pm:** Janapada Gayana by G. Srinivas and Troupe, Immavinahundi, Nanjangud taluk
- **At Exhibition premises — 7 pm:** Tala-Maddale by Mahila Yakshagana Tala-Maddale Balaga, Kadri, Mangaluru.
- **Adjacent to School — 7 pm:** Sugama Sangeetha by Gandharvagaana Troupe, Suttur.

DRAMAS

- **At Hiriyara Mane premises — 10 pm:** 'Prabhulinga Leele' by Jagadguru Sri Shivarathri Rajendra Kala Balaga, Mysuru.
- **In front of Mangala Mantapa — 10 pm:** 'Srikrishna Sandhana' or 'Geetopadesha' by Sri Vinayaka Krupaposhita Nataka Mandali, Kanakapura.
- **Adjacent to School — 10 pm:** 'Dakshayagna' or 'Brughumuniya Garvabhanga' by Badanavalu Sri Siddheshwara Krupaposhita Nataka Mandali, Hebbakavadi, Mandya taluk.
- **Behind Guest House — 10 pm:** 'Dharmavijaya' or 'Dharmarayana Pattabhisheka' by Sri Abhayanjaneyaswamy Krupaposhita Nataka Mandali, Nelaguli, North Bengaluru.

Sea of devotees...

A sea of devotees turned up for the Rathotsava (Car Festival), organised as part of Suttur Jathra, at Suttur Srikshetra in Nanjangud taluk, Mysuru, this morning. *[Pic. by Vatal Anand]*

'Krishi Brahmanda' boosts GI products of Mysore

Nanjangud, Jan. 17 (BS)- With Nanjangud Rasabale (Nanjangud Banana), Mysore Veelyedele (Mysore Betel Leaves) and Mysore Mallige (Mysore Jasmine), the Geographical Indicator (GI) products of Mysuru district, nearing their extinction, the ongoing Krishi Mela, at Suttur Jathra in Suttur Srikshetra, Nanjangud taluk in the district, has provided a perfect platform to conserve them for posterity.

The Krishi Mela titled 'Krishi Brahmanda' forming one-acre land, encourages farmers to give priority to grow such crops, with the experts providing required guidance on how to command a better price with a better market facility, along with exporting crops to foreign countries.

Banana

For example, Banana, which is one among the largely grown horticultural crops is known for varieties like; Nanjangud Rasabale, Elakki Bale, Pachch Bale (G9), which are popular among consumers too. The banana plants are prone to diseases like Panama Wilt and fungal infections, which generally come to notice only after seven months of plantation. The agricultural experts at the Mela, with the help of demonstration, educate the farmers on methods to be followed, to protect Banana plants from diseases.

Paddy varieties

As an alternative to Jyothi variety of paddy, which is more susceptible to diseases, the experts recommend the cultivation of four other paddy varieties like Sahyadri Red, KMP 220, Daksha and KMP 225, which is succinctly explained in a demonstration.

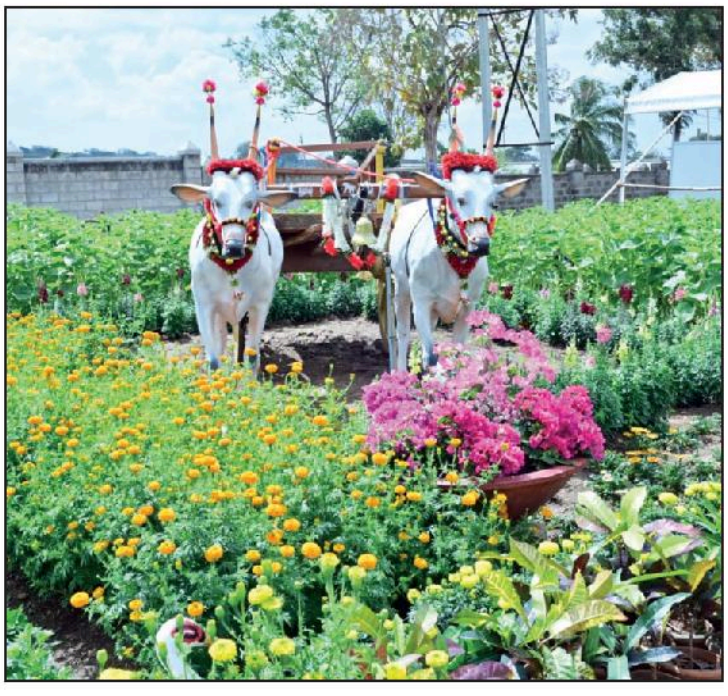
Greens rich in nutrients like- Chakramuni and Nugge and vegetables like tomato, brinjal, ladies finger and several other crops, are cultivated here as part of a demonstration.

Small farmers

It is intended at making small land holding farmers self-sufficient, by adopting mixed farming methods, with the aid of drip irrigation to maintain moisture of the land. The inter-cropping is another method of farming, that assures win-win situation for farmers.

While not many take the risk of growing another crop as an inter-crop with sugarcane, the Krishi Mela encourages farmers to grow Avare, Halasande, Uddu and Hesaru Kalu. They contribute to the improvement of soil fertility and boost the yield of the main crop.

By adopting Akkadi Salu method, the land can be divided into six rows. While maize crop seeds can be sowed in four rows, thogari bele can be sown in two rows. The revenue can be generated from either of the two crops, to minimise the loss suffered from another.



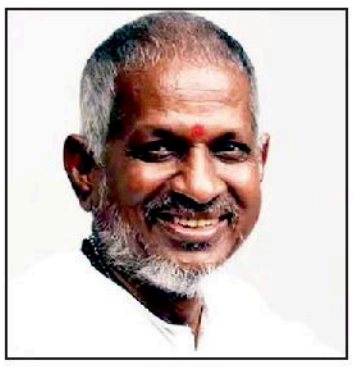
Dwadasha Garudotsava in city on Jan. 18

Music Maestro Ilayaraja invited as chief guest

Mysuru, Jan. 17 (GA&VNS)- The Dwadasha Garudotsava organised by Panchagarudotsava Seva Samithi will be held on Jan. 18 at the Sports Complex of Mahajana Education Society in Jayalakshmipuram.

Addressing the media persons at Pathrakarthara Bhavan on Friday, MLA T.S. Srivatsa said the inauguration of Garuda Sabha and Dwadasha Garudotsava will be held at 4.05 pm in presence of Seers from various Mutts.

Music Maestro Ilayaraja will be the chief guest. Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar will flag-off the Dwadasha Garudotsava procession. Sri Parakala Mutt Pontiff Sri Srimadabhinava Vagheesha Brahmatantra Swatantra Parakala Swamiji, Sri Yadugiri Yathiraja Mutt Pontiff Sri Yadugiri Yathiraja Narayana Ramanuja Jeeyar, Ubhaya Vedantha Acharya Peetam Pontiff Sri Tridandi Chinna Srimannarayana Ramanuja Jeeyar Swamiji, Avadhoota Datta Peetham Junior Pontiff Sri Datta Vijayananda Theertha Swamiji and Mysuru's Sri Yoganarasimhaswamy Temple Dharmadhikari Prof. Bhashyam Swamiji will grace the occasion, he added.



Ilayaraja

MLAs K. Harishgowda and G.T. Devegowda, DC G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar and Mercury Group, Mumbai, MD Sriram Bhaktisaran will be the special invitees. Former Minister S.A. Ramdas, former MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, District Brahmana Sangha President D.T. Prakash, former Corporators Bhagya Madesh and Namratha Ramesh and Mahajana Education Society Secretary Vijayalakshmi Bhagwat will be present.

Following the stage programme, deities from 12 temples across the city including Sri Lakshminarasimha Swamy Temple, Jayalakshmipuram, Sri Prasanna Venkataramaswamy Temple, Hale Bandikeri, Sri Srinivasaswamy Temple, Tilaknagar, Sri Pustakam Santhanavenugopalaswamy Temple, Devaraja Mohalla, Sri Andal Mandiram, VV Puram, Sri Bhoodevi Sametha Lakshmivarahaswamy Temple, K.R. Pet, Sri Lakshminarasimha Kshetra, Belagola, Sri Lakshmivaradarajaswamy Temple, Yelwal, Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, Ummathur, Chamarajanagar, Sri Cheluvanarayanaswamy Temple, Metagalli, Sri Padmavati Sametha Srinivasa Swamy Temple, N.R. Mohalla and Sri Kalyana Venkatesha Swamy Temple, Kalyanagirinagar will be taken on a grand procession.

The procession will pass through Lakshmi Narasimhaswamy Temple on Kalidasa Road, Mathru Mandali Circle, Vontikoppal Circle, Sri Andal Temple, Sri Chandramouleshwara Temple and Lakshmi Narasimhaswamy Temple before culminating at Mahajana Sports Complex.

Haridasa Kritis' recital at Ganabharathi

Vidu. Suneetha *Pt. Ramesh Dannur* *Pt. Veerabhadraiah*

Mysuru, Jan. 17- Ganabharathi has organised Kashi Sundaradasa Memorial Mouni Amavasya Music Concert at its Veene Seshanna Bhavana on Adichunchanagiri Road in Kuvempunagar tomorrow (Jan. 18) at 6 pm.

Well-known Hindustani artiste Vidu. Suneetha Hiremath will present Haridasa Kritis. She will be accompanied by Pt. Ramesh Dannur on tabla and Pt. Veerabhadraiah Hiremath on harmonium.

The above event is sponsored by SSN Rao, Saralarao, B.N. Sampath and Prabhavathi Sampath.

Profile

Vidu. Suneetha Hiremath has learnt Hindustani Vocal by her father Pt. Veerabhadraiah Hiremath and for advanced learning, she continued with Guru Pt. Pt. Indudhar Nirody.

She has been awarded the CCRT Student Scholarship and she is a 'B' grade artiste of Akashvani.

Vidu. Suneetha has performed in many known platforms like Suttur Mutt, Mysore Palace, Mumbai's Gandharva Mahavidyalaya and many more.

For details, contact Ganabharathi Secretary C.G. Ravishankar on Mob: 94483-23234.

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Ninaada Gruha Sangeetha

Mysuru, Jan. 17- The 16th concert under the 'Ninaada Gruha Sangeetha' series will be held at #37, 'Ninaada,' Rishabh Siddhi Layout, Kergalli, Mysuru, on Jan. 18 at 6 pm. This event, presented by the Ranjani Memorial Trust, will feature a Hindustani classical vocal concert by **Koushik Aithal** of Bengaluru accompanied by **Sumith S. Naik** on tabla and **H. Prasad Kamath** on harmonium.

Music connoisseurs Meera and Hemant Korwar are the sponsors for this concert.

Koushik Aithal *Sumith Naik* *Prasad Kamath*

PROFILES

Koushik Aithal is a very prominent Hindustani vocalist based in Bengaluru. Born on July 29, 1983, Koushik was initiated into classical music early in his childhood by his parents. But it was only as a young boy that he underwent training in Hindustani classical music under Humayun Harlapur for several years. Koushik's talent and dedication brought him from his native town, Thirthahalli, to Bengaluru, where he undertook a graduate course in Business Management.

He was accepted as a disciple by Pt. Parameshwar Hegde, the foremost disciple of late *Padma Bhushan* Pt. Basavaraj Rajguru. Pt. Hegde, who is a leading exponent of Kirana, Gwalior and Patiala Gharanas, honed Koushik's abilities in Khayal gayaki and set him on his way to becoming a promising artiste.

Sumith S. Naik hails from Kochi, Kerala. He was initiated into music by his parents Sudhakar Naik and Meera. He started his initial musical training under Vid. Naveen Pai and then continued his training under the tutelage of Dr. Udayraj Karpur.

He has accompanied many renowned senior musicians and promising youngsters. He has performed numerous tabla solo concerts, Karnatak Talavadya percussion ensembles and solo accompaniment with his Guru Dr. Udayraj Karpur. He also plays for other genres like Ghazals, Jazz, Bhakti Sangeet, Natya Sangeet and Sufi-Qawwali. He has played background scores for many movie tracks like 'Mohavalayam' and 'Sthalam.' He has given outstanding performances at platforms in India and abroad.

H. Prasad Kamath, son of Prakash Kamath & Jayashree, started to learn music at the age of 7, under Vid. Mahabhaleshwar Bhagwat. He has since then been learning from the renowned harmonium maestro and composer, Sudhir Nayak, Mumbai. He has completed B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering at NITK and after working at Reliance Industries for 3 years, he is currently based in Udupi, pursuing his passion.

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Art & Cultural Show to conclude tomorrow

Basavaraj and troupe from Ranebennur performing** 'Nandi Kolu' **folk dance as part of Bahuroopi Janapada Utsava at Kindarijogi premises in Kalamandira yesterday.

Picture alongside shows an artwork titled** 'Naanu Ninnolaga... Neenu Nannolaga...' **(Am I in you... Are you in me...), installed by artist L. Yogananda, an alumnus of CAVA, Mysuru, using glass pieces and cinema reels depicting the portrait of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, at Rangayana premises as part of the ongoing 'Bahuroopi Baba Saheb.'

The week-long 25th National Theatre Festival, with the theme Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, will conclude tomorrow (Jan. 18) with Musical Narrative of Baba Saheb by Punjab Singer Ginni Mahi and troupe at Kalamandira at 7 pm.

EVENTS TOMORROW (JAN. 18)

NATIONAL SEMINAR at Mini Theatre

10 am to 11.30 am : **Session-3 -** Talk on 'Economic Thoughts of Ambedkar & its Implementation' by Prof. K.S. Chalam, Chairman, Institute of Social Justice and Economics, Visakhapatnam. Talk on 'Cultural Resistance of Subaltern Groups' by Prof. Rajendra Chenni, Cultural Thinker, Shivamogga. Prof. T.R. Chandrashekar, Senior Economist, Bengaluru, chairs.

11.45 am to 1.15 pm : **Plenary Session-2** on 'Ambedkar and Spiritual Emancipation' by Ven. Thubten Kalden, Sera Jey Monastery, Bylakuppe. Dr. Nataraj Bhudal, Buddhist Scholar, Tumakuru, chairs.

1.45 pm to 3.15 pm : **Session-4 -** Talk on 'Ambedkar Perception of Labour Reforms and Movements' by Dr. R. Prathiba, President, Garment and Textile Workers Union (GATWU), Bengaluru. Talk on 'Popular Resistance in India and Development' by Dr. Sudhir G. Vombatkere, retired Major General, Indian Army Corps of Engineers, Mysuru. Prof. Rahmat Tarikere, Cultural Thinker, Vijayanagara, chairs.

3.30 pm to 5 pm : **Session-5 -** Talk on 'Indian Women Movement: Issues & Challenges' by Dr. H.G. Jayalakshmi, Writer and Feminist Activist, Bengaluru. Talk on 'Indian Constitution: Hopes and Crisis' by Prof. A. Narayana, Azim Premji University, Bengaluru. Prof. M. Umapathy, Senior Political Scientist, Mysuru, chairs.

5 pm to 6 pm : **Valedictory Session.** Valedictory Address by Kotiganahalli Ramaiah, Cultural Thinker, Kolar. M.K. Savitha, Registrar, University of Mysore, Mysuru, chief guest. Dr. Sabeera Ahmad Mulla, Director, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Training, Research & Extension Centre, Dept. of Social Welfare, Bengaluru, Prof. S. Narendra Kumar, Director, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Research and Extension Centre, Manasagangothri, University of Mysore, Mysuru and Dr. S. Tukaram, Adviser, KREIS, Social Welfare Department, Bengaluru, will be present. Satish Tiptur, Director, Rangayana, Mysuru and Dr. M.D. Sudarshan, Deputy Director, Rangayana, Mysuru, will preside.

Bahuroopi Baba Saheb

25th National Theatre Festival at Rangayana

EVENTS TODAY (JAN. 17)

CHILDREN'S BAHUROOPI at Kalamandira

7 pm : Staging of play 'Kishkinda' (Tamil); 55 minutes; Playwright: Rejith V. Chandu; Director: Sreekanth Sankar; Group: Aalam Theatre Group, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

At Kindarijogi premises

5 pm : Musical Narrative of Baba Saheb by Pichalli Srinivas & troupe, Dalita Kalamandali, Malur, Kolar district.

PLAY at Bhoomigeeta

6.30 pm : Staging of play 'Kaledu Hoda Hadu' (Kannada); 75 minutes; Playwright: Experienced Stories of Payana Artistes; Stage Adaptation: Dadapeer Jaiman; Director: N. Mangala; Group: Payana Rangatanda, Bengaluru.

PLAY at Vanaranga

7 pm : Staging of play 'Kivuda Madida Kitapati' (Kannada); 180 minutes; Playwright: K.N. Salunki; Director: B. Kumaraswamy; Group: Sri Kumareshwara Nataka Sangha, Chitradurga.

EVENTS TOMORROW (JAN. 18)

FILM FESTIVAL at Sriranga Auditorium

10 am : Screening of 'Gandhi Jayanti' (Kannada - 2024); 100 minutes; Director: Ravindranath Sirivara.

12 noon : Screening of 'Bharatada Prajegalada Naavu' (Kannada - 2021); 133 minutes; Director: Krishnamurthy Chamaram.

2 pm : Screening of 'Hemavathi' (Kannada); 140 minutes; Director: Siddalingaiah.

PLAY at Bhoomigeeta

6.30 pm : Staging of play 'Kavan an Ambedkarite Opera' (Hindi); 125 minutes; Playwright: Sudhesh Jadhav; Direction: Abhishek Majumdar; Group: Yalgar Sanskrutik Manch and Nalanda Arts Studio, Mumbai.

PLAY at Vanaranga

7 pm : Staging of play 'Rumu Rumu Rumu' (Kannada); 75 minutes; Playwright: Shradharaj, B.K. Narasimharaju; Director: H.R. Shradharaj; Group: Jiguru Academy of Performing Arts, Tumakuru.

MUSICAL NARRATIVE at Kalamandira

7 pm : Musical Narrative of Baba Saheb - Punjab Singer Ginni Mahi and troupe. Dr. Nagalakshmi Choudhary, Chairperson, Karnataka State Commission for Women, Bengaluru, inaugurates. Dr. Nellukunte Venkateshaiah, Personal Secretary for the Chief Minister, chief guest. L.N. Mukundaraj, Chairman, Karnataka Sahitya Academy, Bengaluru, presides. Satish Tiptur, Director, Rangayana Mysuru and Dr. M.D. Sudarshan, Dy. Director, Rangayana Mysuru, will be present.

DAILY Feature

- **Folk Performances at Kindarijogi premises**
- **Books Exhibition**
- **Handicrafts Exhibition & Demonstration**
- **Desi Food Festival**
- **Painting Exhibition**
- **Discount sale of books published by Prasaranga, University of Mysore.**

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Mark (K) - 5 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Thalaivar Thambi Thalaimaiyil (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu (Te) - 3 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**

- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Teertharoopa Tandeyavarige (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Bharathi Teacher (K) - 2 Shows; *Surya: Power of Love (K)* - 2 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  The Devil (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Vaa Vaathiyaar (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Surya (K) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu (Te)	(S-1)	10.50 am
	(S-4)	3.45 pm, 7 pm, 10.15 pm
Avatar Fire & Ash (E-3D)	(S-1)	2.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	(S-1)	6.05 pm, 10.10 pm
	(S-4)	11.45 am
Thalaivar Thambi Thalaimaiyil (Ta)	(S-2)	11 am
Vaa Vaathiyaar (Ta)	(S-2)	1.30 pm
Theertharoopa Tandeyavarige (K)	(S-2)	4.15 pm
Happy Patel: Khatarnak Jasoos (H)	(S-2)	7.20 pm, 9.55 pm
Sarvam Maya (Ma)	(S-3)	10 am
Mark (K)	(S-3)	1 pm
Anaganaga Oka Raju (Te)	(S-3)	4 pm, 7.10 pm
28 Years Later The Bone Temple (E)	(S-3)	10.15 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

The Raja Saab (K)	:	1.15 pm, 7.45 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	1.30 pm, 7.30 pm
Mark (K)	:	1.30 pm, 7.15 pm
Surya: Power of Love (K)	:	1.30 pm
Avatar: Fire and Ash (K)	:	4 pm, 7.45 pm
Maazar (K)	:	4.30 pm
Vaa Vaathiyaar (Ta)	:	4.45 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Nari Nari Naduma Murari (Te)	:	8.50 am, 7.25 pm
Anaganaga Oka Raju (Te)	:	9.15 am, 4 pm
Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu (Te)	:	9.55 am, 1.05 pm, 3.10 pm 6.40 pm, 10.30 pm
Vaa Vaathiyaar (Ta)	:	10.20 am, 7.05 pm
Happy Patel: Khatarnak Jasoos (H)	:	11 am, 1.15 pm 4.05 pm, 7.55 pm
Bhartha Mahasayulaku Wignyapthi (Te)	:	11.45 am, 4.25 pm, 10.20 pm
Parasakthi (Ta)	:	11.50 am
The Raja Saab (Te)	:	12.20 pm
The Raja Saab (K)	:	6.30 pm
Thalaivar Thambi Thalaimaiyil (Ta)	:	1.35 pm
Greenland 2: Migration (E)	:	2.45 pm, 8.05 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	3.50 pm, 10 pm
Mark (K)	:	5 pm
Band Baaja Baaraat (H)	:	9.50 pm
28 Years Later: The Bone Temple (E)	:	10.10 pm
Avatar: Fire and Ash (E-3D)	:	10.25 pm

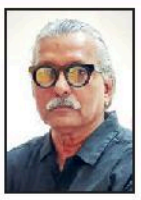
MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu (Te)	:	9.25 am, 1 pm, 3.50, 10.30 pm
Vaa Vaathiyaar (Ta)	:	10.15 am, 4.20 pm
Happy Patel: Khatarnak Jasoos (H)	:	11.05 am, 4.40 pm, 10.10 pm
The Raja Saab (Te)	:	11.15 am
Anaganaga Oka Raju (Te)	:	12.45 pm, 7.05 pm
Nari Nari Naduma Murari (Te)	:	1.40 pm, 10.20 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	2.55 pm, 10 pm
Bhartha Mahasayulaku Wignyapthi (Te)	:	7 pm
Parasakthi (Ta)	:	7.10 pm
Mark (K)	:	7.15 pm

EVENTS TODAY (JAN. 17)

- **Jagannatha Centre For Art And Culture (JCAC), Mysuru and Association of Visual Artists (AVA):** Mysore Chitra Santhe, Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture premises, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **up to 8 pm.** [Mob: 98454-18843]
- **Hari Vidyalaya:** Sankranti Sambhrama, Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha Secretary KSN Prasad chief guest, **4 pm;** Hosamane Alamelamma Ramaswamy Iyengar Memorial Music Programme by *Ganakala Ratna* Vid. M.S. Deepak (vocal), Vidu. S.V. Divyashree (violin), Vid. A. Radhesh (mridanga) and Vid. Sharath Koushik (ghata), Sri Vedanta Deshika Mantapa, Hari Vidyalaya premises, **6 pm.**
- **Jagannatha Centre For Art And Culture (JCAC), Mysuru:** Uttarayana - A celebration of art and culture, inauguration of 'Girish Doshi - A life in architecture' — Exhibition of Girish Doshi's works, Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **4.30 pm.** [Mob: 78990-33303]
- **District Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Mysuru and Tayamma Prakashana, Mysuru:** Sankranti Kavigoshti, Parishat Mysuru President Maddikere Gopal delivers keynote address, Karnataka Police Academy (KPA) Dy.SP S.N. Sandesh Kumar inaugurates, Senior Scholar Dr. C.P. Krishnakumar (CPK) presides, Dr. S.P. Yoganna of Suyog Hospital, poetess Dr. A. Pushpa Iyengar and Varakodu's Shiksha PU College Principal Devaraju P. Chikkahalli chief guests, Suyog Hospital auditorium, Ramakrishnanagar, **5.30 pm.**
- **Kalasuruchi:** 'Kathe Kelona Banni,' story-telling by M. Suma Nagendra, Kannada Lecturer, Gopalaswamy PU College, Mysuru, Suruchi Rangamane, Kuvempunagar, **4.30 pm.**
- **Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (BVB), Mysuru:** Kathak by Hari & Chethana and team — Nidhika, Sirisha, Varuni, Udisha and Seema Krishnan — of Noopur Performing Arts Centre, Bengaluru, BVB premises, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **6 pm.**
- **BSS Vidyodaya, RAAGA Music Academy and Sanskar Bharati:** Bhagini Raaga Sourabha - Karnatak music concert by Vid. N.H. Shri Hari Bhat, accompanied by Vid. Rupanagudi Ratna Teja on violin, Vid. Pranav Subrahmanya on mridanga and Vid. M.J. Kirankumar on ghata. BSS Vidyodaya, Krishnamurthypuram, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust:** Karnatak classical vocal concert by Vidu. Rupasri Shankar, accompanied by Vid. Amogha Nadadur on violin, Vid. Vikram Bharadwaj on mridanga and Vid. T.N. Ajay on ghata, Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple, SBM Colony, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram:** Swami Paramahamsanandaji speaks on 'Disciples and devotees of Sri Ramakrishna' in English, Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm.**
- **Avadhoota Datta Peetham:** 4k Projection Mapping on 45-ft tall Karya Siddhi Hanuman statue, Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda (SGS) Ashram, Dattanagar, Nanjangud Road, **(3 Shows) 7.10 pm, 7.40 pm and 8.10 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (JAN. 18)



- **Jagannatha Centre For Art And Culture (JCAC), Mysuru:** Uttarayana - A celebration of art and culture, 'Girish Doshi - A life in architecture' — Exhibition of Girish Doshi's works, **10 am to 7 pm;** Talk by architect **Girish Doshi,** Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **4.30 pm.** [Mob: 78990-33303]
- **Akhila Bharatiya Sahitya Parishat, District Committee, Mysuru:** Mysuru District Session, Sankrati Utsava and inauguration of the session, retd. KMF CEO Ashok presides, Parishat Mysuru Vice-President B.K. Jagadish delivers talk on Sankranti, Dr. H.P. Raghavendra Shetty's house auditorium, #116, Vinaya Marga, Siddarthanagar, **10.30 am.**
- **Jagannatha Centre For Art And Culture (JCAC), Mysuru and Association of Visual Artists (AVA):** Mysore Chitra Santhe, JCAC premises, Vijayanagar, **11 am to 8 pm.**
- **Mysore Literary Association:** Talk on 'Food, Agriculture and Farmer' by Dr. Vasanth Kumar Thimakapura, renowned agricultural scientist, Kalpa Kshetra, Vijayanagar 4th Stage, 1st Phase, **11 am.**
- **Bhagawan 1008 Kote Sri Shanthinatha Basadi, New Sayyaji Rao Road:** Mandala Puja Mahotsava after Bhagawan 1008 Sri Shanthinatha Teerthankarara Maanastambhopari Jina Bimbagala Panchakalyana, Sri Bhuvanakeerti Bhattaraka Pattacharyavarya Swamiji of Srikshetra Kanakagiri, Jain Mutt and Dr. Sri Nanjavadhoota Swamiji of Sri Gurugunda Brahmeshwaraswamy Mutt, Srikshetra Pattanayakanahalli (Spatikapuri), will grace, MLA T.S. Srivatsa and MLC A.H. Vishwanath chief guests, Kote Sri Shanthinatha Basadi premises, **11 am.**
- **Books & Brews Library:** Curious Case of the Cosmos Monthly Workshop for 5-12 years old children, **3 pm to 4 pm;** For children aged 13-17 years, Books & Brews Library, Gokulam, **4 pm to 5 pm.** [Mob: 84335-53734]
- **Panchagarudotsava Seva Samithi:** Inauguration of Garuda Sabha and Dwadasha Garudotsava, Sports Complex of Mahajana Education Society, Jayalakshmipuram, **4.05 pm.**
- **Ranjani Memorial Trust:** 'Ninaada Gruha Sangeetha' series - 16th Concert, Hindustani classical vocal concert by Koushik Aithal of Bengaluru, with Sumith Naik on tabla and H. Prasad Kamath on harmonium, #37, 'Ninaada,' Rishabh Siddhi Layout, Kergalli, **6 pm.** [Mob: 94496-76014]
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru:** Swami Jnanayogananda speaks on 'Sri Ramakrishna Vachanaveda' in Kannada, Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm.**
- **Children's Literary Club:** 'Learning Beyond Syllabus - Part 2' by Club Director Dr. R. Purnima, Rangarao Memorial Residential School for the Differently Abled Girl Students, **6 pm.**
- **Ganabharathi:** Kashi Sundaradasa Memorial Mouni Amavasya Music Concert - Haridasa Kritis by Vidu. Suneetha Hiremath, Ganabharathi, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm.**
- **Natana Rangashale:** Staging of play 'Kamsaayana' by Tara Arena Theatre Club, written by Dr. H.S. Venkateshamurthy, directed by Sunil Kumar Singh, Natana premises, Ramakrishnanagar, **6.30 pm.** [Mob: 99801-43409]
- **Avadhoota Datta Peetham:** 4k Projection Mapping on 45-ft tall Karya Siddhi Hanuman statue, Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda (SGS) Ashram, Dattanagar, Nanjangud Road, **(3 Shows) 7.10 pm, 7.40 pm and 8.10 pm.**

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu (Te)	:	9.30 am, 3.50 pm 7.10 pm 10.30 pm
Mark (K)	:	10 am
Anaganaga Oka Raju (Te)	:	11 am, 7.15 pm
Bhartha Mahasayulaku Wignyapthi (Te)	:	12.50 pm
The Raja Saab (K)	:	1 pm
Vaa Vaathiyaar (Ta)	:	2.05 pm, 10.20 pm
Thalaivar Thambi Thalaimaiyil (Ta)	:	4.40 pm
28 Years Later: The Bone Temple (E)	:	4.50 pm
Happy Patel: Khatarnak Jasoos (H)	:	7.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	9.45 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Nari Nari Naduma Murari (Te)	:	9.50 am, 7.20 pm
Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu (Te)	:	10.05 am, 12.50 pm, 4 pm 7.10 pm, 10.30 pm
Vaa Vaathiyaar (Ta)	:	10.10 am, 4.45 pm
Maazar (K)	:	10.55 am
Teertharoopa Tandeyavarige (K)	:	12.55 pm
Surya: Power of Love (K)	:	1.15 pm
Parasakthi (Ta)	:	1.25 pm, 10.20 pm
Anaganaga Oka Raju (Te)	:	4 pm, 7.05 pm
Bhartha Mahasayulaku Wignyapthi (Te)	:	4.10 pm
Thalaivar Thambi Thalaimaiyil (Ta)	:	7.30 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	10 pm
The Raja Saab (Te)	:	10.10 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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OM SHANTHI

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of

Shri Narasegowda C

on January 17, 2026. He was the esteemed Founder of the Bhanavi Charitable Trust & Bhanavi Hospital, a former President of the Vokkaligara Sangha, & a veteran leader of the Congress party.

The well-wishers may pay their final respects at Bhanavi Hospital (Only Today)

In Grief

Dr. Vijay Cheluvaraj N.

(Medical Director, Bhanavi Hospital) &

Family Members, Staff of Bhanavi Charitable Trust and Bhanavi Hospital